



# City of Burlington

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## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008

**Chairman Tom Stelling called the meeting to order at 6:30 P. M.**

**Roll call:** Present : Commissioners Bob Henney, Joel Weis, Pat Brzezinski, Judy Stone, Alderman Kent Strong and Chairman Tom Stelling. Also present: Chris Schanz of RCEDC and Pat Scherrer, Building Inspector. Commissioner Maria Veronico was not present.

**Citizen Comments:** There were no citizen comments.

**Approval of January 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Stelling entertained a motion for approval of the January 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by Commissioner Henney. Seconded by Commissioner Strong. There was no discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

### **Façade Improvement Grant Application**

#### **Sports, Treasures, Memorabilia & More, 581 N. Pine St., Burlington, WI 53105**

Chairman Stelling entertained a motion to approve the application for a façade grant for \$250.00. Commissioner Weis motioned and Commissioner Strong seconded. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Brzezinski, Weis, Stone, Henney and Strong. Nays: None. Motion carried. Mr. Jason Bader was granted his façade grant in the amount of \$250 for his signs.

### **Certificate of Appropriateness Application**

#### **Downtown Burlington Investment Group, 129 E. Chestnut St., Burlington, WI 53105**

At this point Chairman Stelling stated that his business name is listed in the certificate of appropriateness application to be considered for 129 E. Chestnut St. and that he would be stepping down.

Also Commissioner Stone had a conflict of interest in the certificate of appropriateness matter for 129 E. Chestnut St. being part owner of the building. Commissioner Strong took the place as Chairman for this item.

The owner of the property Dr. Bill Stone gave a presentation which included some of the history of the property. The plans for the building include removal of black paint, replacing 3 upper arched windows with double-hung windows, removal of wood from the façade and restoring the bulkheads. The building will be painted with colors to match adjoining buildings. Chairman Strong entertained a motion to approve the certificate of appropriateness. Commissioner Weis motioned to approve the certificate of appropriateness for removing the paint, replacing the windows and removing the existing wood above the windows and to restore the bulkheads below with paint colors to match the adjoining buildings. A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Brzezinski, Weis, Henney and Strong. Chairman Stelling and Commissioner Stone abstained from voting. Motion carried. Chairman Strong then stepped down and resumed his position as commissioner and Mr. Stelling regained his chairmanship of meeting.

### **Sign Permit Application**

#### **Beijing Gardens, Jennifer Bero, 464-468 N. Pine Street**

Ms. Jennifer Bero, owner of the building, stated that they want to remove the pagoda and replace with a new sign and continue with the restoration. It was determined that the size of the sign is in compliance. After much discussion, Chairman Stelling presented Ms. Bero with two possible options for the sign. One is to have a yellow background with red "Beijing Gardens" along with black Chinese lettering. The other is to have a yellow background with black "Beijing Gardens" along with red Chinese lettering. There was a consensus to do a response team visit to determine some possibilities for the sign and the general restoration of the project with the bulkheads and the transoms to be opened up so that the response team would have a better idea of how to address these. A formal application can be resubmitted afterwards for the sign and the restoration. Ms. Bero was advised by Chairman Stelling to contact Mr. Schanz of RCEDC to set up a visit. Chairman Stelling entertained a motion to table this item to the next meeting. Commissioner Strong motioned. Commissioner Stone seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

### **Discussion of Current Projects and Response Team Updates**

Chairman Stelling reported that there were no response team visits last month. The current project list has been updated. The City of Burlington has not yet done their air conditioning project at City Hall. Dale Bruesewitz, owner of 140 W. Chestnut has not painted his panels peace yellow. Pat Scherrer will look into this. Chairman Stelling spoke to Mr. Martell, owner of 173 E. Chestnut St., who is working on the inside and in the Spring will do work on the outside.

### **Update on Wisconsin Historical Society Certified Local Government Application**

Mr. Schanz reported that the application for the City to become a CLG has been reviewed by the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS). They want to see in addition to the application how would the Board handle something not under their expertise and how would they research the matter. Mr. Schanz explained to the WHS that the HPC would handle it by continuing to reference the Burlington Historical Museum for items that come before the committee and also work with WHS and local universities. Chairman Stelling stated that as a CLG, responsibilities of the HPC would expand. The HPC would have the ability (with proper credentials and proper check lists) to classify structures or sites as historical within the community that are not now in the Historic District so that they can be properly maintained as such. The National Trust would recognize Burlington as a CLG for historical credits or for getting listed in the National Register. This will shorten the processing time as the local committee would be the first step for applicants. Mr. Schanz will continue with the process.

### **Request of City Administrator to create HPC PowerPoint presentation**

City Administrator Kevin Lahner met with Mr. Schanz and said he sees a lot of value in the purposes of our committee and wants us to start using PowerPoint Presentation. Commissioner Weis stated this is a great way to showcase what has been done in the Historic District with “before” and “after” pictures that we can put on DVD’s to give to interested people. In order to purchase Power Point, Commissioner Strong stated we need a budget. Chairman Stelling stated that we also need it for schooling, conferences, etc. Commissioner Strong will talk to Mr. Lahner about setting one up.

**Review of Grant Funding Status** There was no new action except for the \$250 given out at this meeting. Commissioner Weis stated that the interest is low on remaining grant fund total and that Mr. Schanz was going to look into why. Mr. Schanz stated that he will get this addressed.

**Questions and Comments concerning potential/future projects:** An item was brought up that concerned Karen Jensen in the Town of Burlington looking for funding due to her farm and house being damaged from recent tornadoes. Unfortunately the HPC cannot help her financially but suggestions were given. Commissioner Henney stated that Representative Samantha Kerkman is her best choice for seeking support.

**Adjournment** Chairman Stelling thanked Commissioner Kent Strong for his years of service on the HPC. Commissioner Strong stated it had been a pleasure. Chairman Stelling entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Strong motioned. Commissioner Stone seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

June Bobier  
Building Department